



MDAH Volunteers Receive President's Volunteer Service Gold Awards and Governor's Awards of Merit!

Award winners pictured, first row, left to right: Betty Henry, Carol Busbee, Joyce Ellis, Sue Newman, Nan Harvey, Carolyn Jones, Noreen Prouty, and Lauren Bailey; **Second row, left to right:** Bernie Lieb, Beverly Fatherree, Mike Daly, Steve Kelly, Buena Lee Huff, Clytice Gardner, Pauline Akers, Betty Fulgham, MDAH director Katie Blount, Freda Spell, Jackie Roman, Joyce Huskey, Cindy Lyons, Jeri Reiff, Jean Simonton, Brenda Cole, and Lucky Osborne; **Third row, left to right:** Gena Roberts, Benny Roberts, Lynn Cox (Greenville Garden Club), Luran Buchanan, Jane Phillips, Pat Fleming, Lee Adams, Kermit Baumgartner, Mary Lohrenz, Ferrell Tadlock, Elbert Hilliard, and Alec Valentine. **Please see page 3 for a complete listing.**

Dear MDAH Volunteers,

Thank you, thank you, and thank you. We know that our figures are a very conservative estimate of your service as we are not able to track everything, but in 2015, MDAH volunteers served more than 17,740 hours with a labor value of more than \$409,274 (*Independent Sector*). **We appreciate all of our MDAH volunteers!**

Elizabeth Coleman, CVA



Test Your Knowledge of Mississippi: Research Questions

1. A patron visits the Archives Library within the William F. Winter Building to make an inquiry. The patron tells the staff member that her father was born on April 24, 1918, and that she would like a copy of her father's birth certificate. The Archives staff member will most likely tell the patron:
 - A) Access online research sites—they should have a copy of the birth certificate.
 - B) Birth certificates from 1912 to present are in the custody at the Mississippi Dept. of Health.
 - C) Request the County Courthouse where her father was domiciled for the certificate.
 - D) Ask the hospital where he was born to search in their records.
- 2) MDAH archives has 1820–1930 federal population censuses for Mississippi on microfilm. Indexes for the years 1820–1870 are in book form, while the 1880–1930 indexes are on microfilm. (The 1890 census was destroyed in a U.S. Department of Commerce fire.) Which is the most recent federal population census available to the public that can be accessed online?
 - A) The 1930 census
 - B) The 1935 census
 - C) The 1940 census
 - D) Online census records not available
3. A portion of the fifty microfilm rolls pertaining to the operation of the Mississippi Freedmen's Bureau include marriage records of some of the newly freed slaves. The information provided includes names of parties, ages, and places of birth and residence. Most of the marriages recorded took place in _____ County and involved grooms who served in the United States Colored Troops.
 - A) Adams
 - B) LeFlore
 - C) Hinds
 - D) Warren

Answers are on the last page.

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Explore Mississippi Historical Markers

William "Brother" Rogers with the Stennis Center for Public Service has developed a great way to visit historic places in Mississippi via the link below:

<http://www.mississippimarkers.com/>

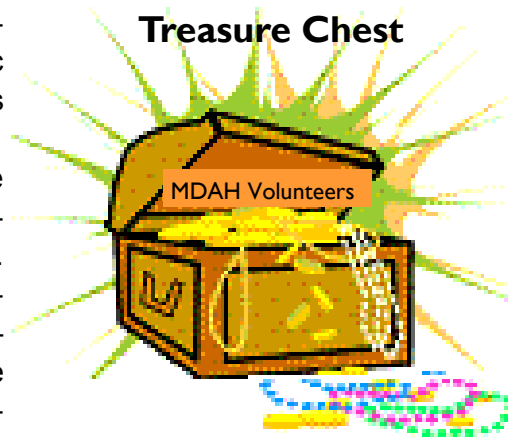

**KEEP
CALM
AND
DO
HISTORY**

Archives and History Celebrates their True Treasures ...Our Volunteers

The Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) recently held its annual Valentine Volunteer Luncheon to recognize the service of their volunteers who serve in both public and behind-the-scenes roles throughout the state.

Many of the volunteers were awarded the President's Volunteer Service Gold Award. This award is the premier volunteer awards program, encouraging citizens to live a life of service through presidential gratitude and national recognition.

MDAH Volunteer Treasure Chest



Also, Awards of Merit from Governor Phil Bryant were distributed to volunteers serving a high number of hours during 2015. "We are very proud of our volunteers. They play an instrumental role in expanding the services and resources that we provide to the public," said Katie Blount, director of MDAH.

The MDAH volunteers are a very special group—they are "the cream of the crop!" We salute not only the award winners, but all volunteers who have helped Archives and History serve the public.

President's Volunteer Service Gold Awards

The MDAH volunteers who received the President's Volunteer Service Gold Award include: Lee Adams, Pauline Akers, Kermit Baumgartner, Chuck Borum, Luran Buchanan, Carol Busbee, Jean Clarkson, Brenda Cole, Paul Davis, Joyce Ellis, Beverly Fatherree, Pat Fleming, Clytice Gardner, Nan Harvey, Betty Henry, Buena Lee Huff, Virginia Hughson, Joyce Huskey, Carolyn Jones, Steve Kelly, Judy Lacy, Bernie Lieb, Mary Lohrenz, Sue Newman, Lucky Osborne, Jane Phillips, Noreen Prouty, Jeri Reiff, Benny Roberts, Gena Roberts, Jackie Roman, Jean Simonton, Freda Spell, Alec Valentine, Greenville Garden Club, and the Wirt Adams Reenactors.

Governor's Awards of Merit

Recipients (100 hours or more): Pauline Akers, Grace Allen, Lauren Bailey, Charles "Chuck" Borum, Dorothea Brock, Carol Busbee, Jean Clarkson, Joyce Ellis, Pat Fleming, Laura Flint, Betty Fulgham, William Harris, Betty Henry, Virginia Hughson, Joyce Huskey, Carolyn Jones, Judy Lacy, Bernie Lieb, Cindy Lyons, Jane Phillips, Noreen Prouty, Ferrell Tadlock, Caleb Warren, and Charles Zuccaro

Recipients (200 hours or more): Mike Daly, Paul Hamel, Nan Harvey, Jeri Reiff, Jackie Roman, Jean Simonton, and Freda Spell

Recipients (300 hours or more): Luran Buchanan, Greenville Garden Club, Steve Kelly, Mary Lohrenz, and Sue Newman

Recipients (400 hours or more): Amanda Hoogestraat

Recipients (600 hours or more): Paul Davis

Recipients (800 hours or more): Kermit Baumgartner

Recipients (2000 hours or more): Elbert Hilliard, Wirt Adams Civil War Reenactors

Old Jackson Christmas by Candlelight Tour

Governor's Mansion

News from Megan Bankston

Images courtesy of Kelly Scrivner, First Lady Deborah Bryant's Chief of Staff



Santa Claus with Governor Phil Bryant and First Lady Deborah Bryant by the Christmas tree.



Above: The Jackson Prep Preptones sang Christmas tunes in the Back Rose Parlor.

Right: Santa Claus and child negotiating Christmas presents.

The Mississippi Governor's Mansion was excited to participate in the twentieth annual *Old Jackson Christmas by Candlelight Tour* on December 4, 2015. After two weeks of Christmas decorating, mansion staff and docents were stationed and ready to welcome visitors to the bedecked historic building. We counted 1,043 visitors during the four hour tour—a new record!

Governor Phil Bryant and First Lady Deborah Bryant happily greeted each guest and took photos in front of the 14-foot Christmas tree in the Front Rose Parlor. Pianists Sam Brady and Dan Michael Colbert played traditional Christmas tunes throughout the evening. The Jackson Prep Preptones stopped by to treat guests to some Christmas carols. Mansion chef Matt Huffman prepared homemade gingerbread and sugar cookies and hot chocolate for guests, and Santa Claus was waiting under the gazebo in the East Garden to hear all of the children's Christmas wishes. It was a busy yet joyous night.



Christmas Decorations at the Governor's Mansion

News from Megan Bankston, images courtesy of Ashleigh Coleman Photography



When First Lady Deborah Bryant moved into the Governor's Mansion four years ago, it was important to her that all guests feel at home when visiting the historic residence. Accordingly, she chose traditional holiday décor to reflect this year's theme, "I'll be Home for Christmas." Jessie Partridge of Maidenhair Event and Floral Design decorated the Governor's Mansion with native florals such as magnolias, various evergreens, and hydrangea.



1. Designer Jessie Partridge with her helper Jeannie Watkins and Mansion curator Megan Bankston.

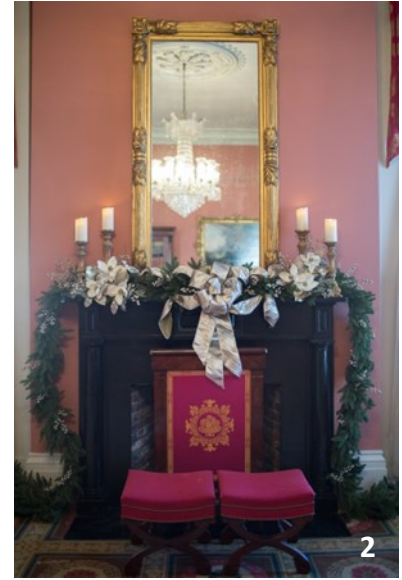
2. The State Dining Room showcased rarely seen pieces of silver from the Mansion's collection. Amaryllis sprang from silver champagne buckets, and a white orchid adorned the center of the Dining Room table flanked by silver candelabras with flameless candlesticks.

3. Guests were greeted with a traditional Christmas celebration in the Foyer with an arrangement of fresh magnolia, Douglas fir, and cedar encircled by two wreaths atop gold velvet table linens. Lush red poinsettias sat alongside evergreen trees in four corners.



Christmas Decorations at the Governor's Mansion

News from Megan Bankston, images courtesy of Ashleigh Coleman Photography



- 1. In the Front Rose Parlor, magnolia blooms trimmed the 14-foot Leyland cypress tree grown and donated by Lazy Acre Christmas Tree Farm in Chunky, Mississippi.**
- 2. A flowing garland of magnolia blooms and silver velvet ribbon with flameless pillared candles embellished the fireplace in the Back Rose Parlor.**
- 3. Decorated as the children's room, frosted fruits, popcorn balls, and yarn ornaments wrap the tree next to period dolls and toys and stockings filled with presents. Mrs. Bryant's daughter's rocking horse was a special treat to adorn the room.**
- 4. Golden horns and string instruments along with ribbons of music notes embellished the mantel and tree in the Gold Bedroom to remind guests of the songs of the season.**

Old Jackson Christmas by Candlelight Tour

Manship House Museum

News from Marilyn Jones, images courtesy of Gail Howell

Volunteers brought the Manship House Museum to life with music, dancing, reenactments, crafts, and yummy treats!



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Fun Event!

See below.



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Be sure to come to the Manship House Museum on Monday, March 21, from 12 to 1 p.m. for the *Preserving the Gardening Legacy* presentation by Shaun Broderick, assistant professor of ornamental horticulture.

1. Jeff Klingfuss in the role of a Victorian gentleman during the Candlelight Tour. Jeff has been hosting a series of very popular culinary workshops at the site.

2. Grady Howell as a Victorian Santa Claus. Grady has been a great asset to the Manship House with his informative presentations.

3. Mary Lohrenz and Gail Howell staffing the crafts station during the event. Thank you both for making this event fun!

4. and 5. Volunteer musicians and dancers set the mood for the time period. Everyone loved seeing and hearing what good times were like long ago.



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Old Jackson Christmas by Candlelight Tour William F. Winter Archives and History Building



Julie Dees and volunteer Jackie Roman donned festive red hats while they staffed the very popular craft station planned by the Archives staff.
Image courtesy of Ashley Kincses.

Volunteers Thomas Cheatham and Nan Harvey visit with Possum Ridge train engineer Timothy Turner before the hundreds and hundreds of visitors make their stop at the wonderful holiday exhibit.

Right: Children are spellbound by the trains buzzing through the model town of Possum Ridge. Image courtesy of Krista Sorensen.



Left: Visitors to the Winter Building were able to see film footage of Mississippi scenes of long ago projected onto the front of the building. Image courtesy of Ashley Kincses.





Old Jackson Christmas by Candlelight Tour William F. Winter Archives and History Building

Images courtesy of Krista Sorenson



Julia Marks Young and Preston Everett from Archives and Records Services pose in the festive selfie station created by Preston.



Volunteer Sue Newman volunteered in three MDAH areas this day—at the State Capitol, in the state archives media room, and the Candlelight event in the Winter Building. Three cheers for Sue!!!



Lori Kincses from Government Records gave a warm holiday welcome to Candlelight visitors.



Above: Joyce Dixon-Lawson draws in a crowd at the Christmas tree craft.



Left: Volunteer Reeser Cooksey assists visitors at the snowflake station.

Old Jackson Christmas by Candlelight Tour Eudora Welty House and Garden

News and images from Maggie Stevenson

With the help of our wonderful volunteers, the *Old Jackson Christmas by Candlelight Tour* at the Eudora Welty House and Garden was a tremendous success. While visitors toured the downstairs of the House, volunteers spoke of Miss Welty and her family Christmas traditions.

One of Welty's favorite holiday decorations was the Christmas Cards that she received from family and friends all over the world. The theme was 'Southern Writers' so the mantle was adorned with cards from Fannie Flag, Katherine Ann Porter, Richard Ford, Elizabeth Spencer, Shelby Foote, and many other author friends of Welty's.

In the Education and Visitors Center, musician Barry Leach performed. Visitors sampled onion tarts prepared by Cosmopolitan Catering by Macy from Katherine Anne Porter's recipe. Onion tarts were served at many of Welty's holiday gatherings. Volunteers also prepared fruit cake cookies and hot apple cider for the event. The EWHG staff wants to thank all of our volunteers for their hard work and time in helping to make this evening a delightful annual event.

1. Jeanette Waites, Jane Gerber, and Bridget Edwards prepared treats for the Candlelight visitors.

2. Jeanette Waites in the kitchen.

3. Ferrell Tadlock greeted visitors at the Education and Visitors Center.

4. Fruit cake cookies prepared by volunteers Laura Magee, Barbara and John Rogers, Sandra West, and Virginia Lee Cora were a BIG HIT!



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Old Jackson Christmas by Candlelight Tour Eudora Welty House and Garden

News and Images from Maggie Stevenson



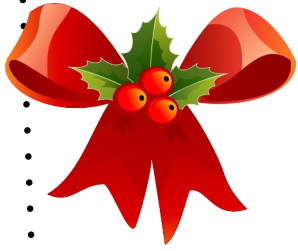
Remember that if the Eudora Welty House and Garden is open on the 13th of the month, tours are free! YAY!!!

1. Volunteer Laura Magee shows visitors Welty's "cut and pin" method.

2. Volunteer Alec Valentine sharing the Welty story.

3. Volunteer Beverly Fatherree welcomes Candlelight visitors in the foyer.

4. Barry Leach, a mainstay of the Jackson music scene, entertains visitors with his renditions of classic holiday tunes.



Old Jackson Christmas by Candlelight Tour

Old Capitol Museum

News and Images from Lauren Miller

The Old Capitol Museum, true to its history, served treats during the Candlelight Tour that were echoes of its past. From 1906 to 1912, the building was used by the state fair company. Ticket booths were stationed outside, banners and flags were placed on the building, and rooms were used for exhibits. Harking back to this period, the staff decided to serve taffy—a staple of today's Mississippi State Fair.



1. The Hinds Community College Brass Ensemble filled the Old Capitol Museum rotunda with the sounds of Christmas.

2. Old Capitol Museum's Mike Stoll prepares the bags for the taffy.

3. Mississippi State Fair taffy from Malone's Candy Company was the special treat for visitors.

4. Visitors enjoying the scrumptious treats!

More Volunteer Images from the Candlelight Tour



Sue Newman and Jackie Roman at the Winter Building selfie station.

FUN



Laura Magee and Lynn Evans.



Above: Virginia Lee Cora at the EWHG.



Left: Jean Clarkson at the Governor's Mansion.



Steven Coleman and Betty Henry at the Manship House Museum.



Laura Magee, Suzanne Marrs, Ann Bittick, and Luran Buchanan at the EWHG.

Old Capitol Museum

Living History

News and Images from Lauren Miller



David Morgan as George Ohr, aka the Mad Potter of Biloxi

Our living history programs continue to be a great success thanks to a set of dedicated volunteers. On February 28, one hundred fifty-four students met three members of the Mississippi Hall of Fame and the Keeper of the Capitol.

Pauline Akers portrayed Nellie Nugent Somerville, the first woman elected to the Mississippi House of Representatives. William Faulkner (portrayed by Philip Huskey) spoke to the students about his work writing not only novels, but movie scripts, too. The typewriter fascinated students! David Morgan portrayed George Ohr, the Mad Potter of Biloxi, complete with moustache.



Pauline Akers as Nellie Nugent Somerville



Philip Huskey as William Faulkner

Old Capitol Museum Present Meets Past

News and Images from Lauren Miller



Front Row: Private Ephraim Overby (Charles Tucker) and Frederick Grant (Hunter Smith), son of General Ulysses S. Grant. Back Row, left to right: a WWII scrap drive operator (Mike Stoll), Secretary of State James Hill (Kendetric Bradley), Chief Justice Ephraim Payton (Tom Watts), Board of Health head Dr. Felix Underwood (Dr. Bryant Boswell), former governor Hiram Runnels (Lain Hughes), preservationist Eron Rowland (Lori Kincses), and First Lady Mildred Humphreys (Maura Johnson).

The seventh annual *Present Meets Past* took place on October 29, and featured characters from both the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The volunteers performed for more than two hundred visitors!

April 3 to July 3 at the Old Capitol Museum

**Luminaries & Legends: Hall of Fame Spotlight
Fox Conner Exhibit**

Come see this exhibit about Fox Conner, a major general and chief operations staff officer for the Allied Expeditionary Force during World War I. He was also a mentor to future general and president Dwight Eisenhower.



Old Capitol Museum

Mississippi Talking: An Evening with New Stage Theatre

News and Images from Lauren Miller

The Old Capitol Museum hosted “Mississippi Talking: An Evening with New Stage Theatre” on January 14. The cast did an excellent job bringing the works of William Faulkner, Eudora Welty, Tennessee Williams, Richard Wright, and others to life.



Thank you New Stage Theatre!

Reeser Cooksey Enjoys Serving Others

Images courtesy of Reeser Cooksey

Reeser Cooksey of Brandon began volunteering for MDAH in the Historic Preservation's Archaeology and Historic Sites section in 2012. Reeser has a heart for service—her volunteer background is tremendous! She has made mission trips to foreign countries for her church, helped with 4-H in Rankin County, served St. Jude's Children's Hospital, and most recently—MDAH and St. Dominic Hospital.

At MDAH, Reeser can be found in the Research Room of Historic Preservation, helping people access the archaeology files.

Whenever MDAH calls upon Reeser, she is always ready to serve. She has volunteered for special events at the Manship House Museum, the Old Capitol Museum, and the William F. Winter Archives and History Building—always with a smile on her face and a giving spirit.

At St. Dominic Hospital, Reeser “repurposes” flowers and creates floral designs so that as many patients as possible have something beautiful in their room. Always on the hunt for flowers, please let Reeser know if you have flowers to share!



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Thank you, Reeser!

1. *Reeser Cooksey spends most of her MDAH volunteer time within the Historic Preservation division assisting archaeologists, scholars, and others who visit the Capers Archaeology search room.*
2. *Reeser staffing the craft station at Old Jackson Christmas by Candlelight Tour in the Winter Building.*
3. *Reeser at St. Dominic Hospital delivering her beautiful creations to patients.*

The Capitol Building: “Most Beautiful Capitol I Have Ever Seen!”

News from Kathy Broom



Left to right: Carolyn Clements, Jerald Everett, and Freda Spell at the Capitol volunteer desk on the first floor

French Translation Available



Image courtesy of Arnold Lindsay, Mississippi Senate press secretary 1

Although most of our international guests speak English, or will have someone who can translate, the Capitol occasionally has visitors who cannot understand English. We are happy to announce the addition of the self-guided tour information translated into French. This translation is courtesy of Mississippi Department of Archives and History Volunteer Gail Buzhardt with assistance from Françoise Markov and Agnès Man-Bourdon. In addition to French, the Capitol also offers German and Spanish translations. During 2015, the Capitol welcomed more than 900 international tourists.

MDAH volunteers are motivated to help our agency for many reasons. Our volunteers are referred to as our “true treasures” because of their ability to connect with the public in a warm manner, their depth of knowledge pertaining to our history, and their eagerness to share the Mississippi story with all.

Volunteer Jerald Everett enjoys his time at the Capitol because he wants to share the beauty of another Mississippi treasure—the building itself! In a recent email, Jerald said, “I enjoy greeting everyone who visits the Capitol. Many of them have never been inside to see our treasure ... Many say they will be back and bring other family members. We are seeing many out-of-state visitors. Our visitors are such a joy and are always impressed with our treasure. Foreign visitors are a pleasure to welcome to Mississippi and to our Capitol. I have had more than one tell me what a beautiful Capitol we have here in Mississippi. A visitor from Germany told me, ‘This is the most beautiful Capitol I have ever seen.’”

If you would like to schedule a group tour to see this treasure, call 601-359-3114. Walk-up tours are available Mondays through Fridays at 9:30 and 11 a.m. and 1 and 2:30 p.m.



Image courtesy of Arnold Lindsay, Mississippi Senate press secretary 2

1. Gail Buzhardt holding Capitol self-guided tour translated into French.

2. Capitol staff Brenda Davis (left) and Kathy Broom (right) thanking Gail for her service!

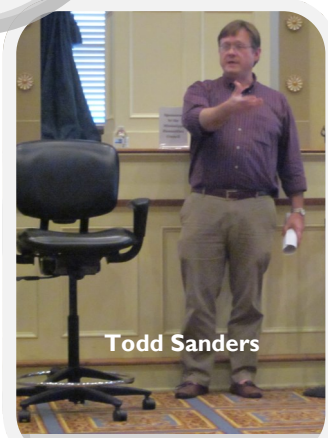
AmeriCorps NCCC: Mississippi History Day Tours



MDAH hosted a day of history for the Vicksburg-based AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) members composed of both the Traditional and FEMA Corps. The Vicksburg campus is one of only five in the country and has an eleven state purview.

The Mississippi Humanities Council co-sponsored this day of history with MDAH by allowing us to engage Dr. Brinda Willis with their Speakers Bureau. Also, Blues artist J. J. Thames performs for the group after Dr. Willis shares her immense knowledge of the Blues with these young members (ages 18 to 24).

The December 4, 2015, tour included visits to the Old Capitol Museum, the Capitol, and the Manship House Museum. Members were even able to meet Mrs. Man-ship, aka volunteer Joyce Huskey!



AmeriCorps visits the Capitol. Kathy Broom (red dress) poses for a picture after their tour of the site.



Eudora Welty House and Garden: Curtain Call Series

News and Images from Maggie Stevenson



Suzanne Marrs



Freda Spell



Ali Dinkins



The Eudora Welty House and Garden has been celebrating the fiftieth anniversary season of our neighbor, New Stage Theater, with a new event series, Curtain Call. We have had a wonderful time getting together with our volunteers and other theater-goers to discuss these plays, whether they have read it, seen it, or performed it.

The plays we are discussing are revival performances from New Stage's first year. The first, *Crimes of the Heart* by Jackson native Beth Henley, was held in September and Suzanne Marrs led the discussion. We were thrilled to have in attendance Annie Cleveland who played "Babe Magrath," who gave us all the inside scoop about what happens on and off the stage during a performance.

Ali Dinkins, who has performed at New Stage, was kind enough to lead the discussion of Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* in February.

We are looking forward to the final Curtain Call of the 2015-16 theater season on June 6 with Suzanne Marrs discussing *The Robber Bridegroom* by Eudora Welty. We hope to see you then.

Something new is coming to the Eudora Welty House and Garden—**Second Saturdays!** Tours will be held at 9 and 11 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month starting April 9.



Valentine Luncheon for 2015 Volunteer Recognition



Above: Deputy Director Robert Benson, Volunteer and Director Emeritus Elbert Hilliard, and Director Katie Blount. Mr. Hilliard celebrates his fiftieth golden anniversary with MDAH—forty years as an employee and ten years as a volunteer.



Maggie Stevenson of the EWHG and Elizabeth Coleman of Volunteer Services with treats made by Meme's Brick Street Bakery of Clinton.

MDAH is fortunate to not only have the very best volunteers on the planet, but we have some fabulous staff members who help to cultivate the atmosphere that makes MDAH a one-of-a-kind organization. BIG "thank yous" to our MDAH volunteer coordinators for their hard work! I also wish to thank our leadership at MDAH for realizing the critical role that you, the MDAH volunteers, play in furthering our goals. Volunteers helped to start this agency in 1902 and continue the work of preserving Mississippi's history and telling the Mississippi story.

MDAH Volunteer Teeny Bond Hosts DAR VIPs



Volunteer Montine "Teeny" Bond of Yazoo City serves as a docent at the Mississippi Governor's Mansion and the Capitol. Teeny is also the Mississippi State Chairman of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and hosted other DAR VIPs on a tour of the Governor's Mansion recently.

First row, left to right: Montine "Teeny" Bond, State Chairman MSDAR; Lynn Forney Young, President General, NSDAR (Texas); **Second row, left to right:** Peggy Carney Truxell, Vice President General NSDAR (North Carolina); Judy Callaway Ostler, Texas State Regent; **Third row, left to right:** Ida "Bea" Fischer, Georgia State Regent; Polly Hunter Grimes, Honorary Mississippi State Regent; and Roberta P. McMullen, Pennsylvania State Regent.

Bulletin Board

Natchez Powwow

Pioneer Skills Today: Animal Tracks

Giant Easter Hunt

Gardening Victorian Style



**To see the MDAH
Calendar of Events**

Lots to do, people to see, places to go...

Click the link below.

<http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/category/events-category/>

Answers

Test Your Knowledge of Mississippi

1. B) Birth certificates from 1912 to present are in the custody at the Mississippi Dept. of Health.
2. C) The 1940 census
3. D) Warren

MDAH Volunteer Newsletter

Elizabeth Coleman, editor

* * *

Contents © 2016

Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Katie Blount, director



The Mississippi Department of Archives and History was founded in 1902 and is the second-oldest state department of archives and history in the country. The mission of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History is to collect, preserve, protect, research, and interpret the state's rich and diverse historic resources and to promote the appreciation and use of those resources.